(b) if so, the details of last three years and the reason for such under performance; and

(c) what is the annual target for current year and what has been the achievement, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) It is a fact that there has been some shortfall in achievement of physical targets set for rebuilding/strengthening/rehabilitation of bridges during the last three years. But it is also noteworthy that total number of bridges rebuilt/strengthened/rehabilitated has been increased drastically are given as under:

| Year | No. of bridges rebuilt/ strengthened/rehabilitated |
|---|---|
| 2001-02 | 725 |
| 2002-03 | 1151 |
| 2003-04 | 1563 |

Shortfall during last 3 years has resulted due to various complexities involved in execution of Bridge Works. Bridge Works get delayed due to various reasons like non-availability of traffic blocks, bad weather conditions, floods, non availability of steel/cement and other extraneous circumstances. The details of annual targets and achievements of Bridge Works during the last three years and current year are given as under:

| Year | No. of bridges targeted for rebuilding/strengthening/ rehabilitation during the year | No. of bridges rebuilt/strengthened/ rehabilitated during the year |
|---|---|---|
| 2004-05 | 1629 | 1579 |
| 2005-06 | 1453 | 1431 |
| 2006-07 | 1272 | 1114 |
| 2007-08 | 1444 | 544 (Upto October, 2007) |

**New railway projects in Karnataka**

2071. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has recently suggested new railway lines and projects for the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken, so far, by the Railway thereon; and

(c) whether the State Government has also proposed new train services and if so, the details thereof and the action taken, so far, thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Details and action taken on some of the ongoing projects requested by the Government of Karnataka are as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

| Sl. No. | Project | Anticipated cost | Expenditure incurred upto March, 2007 | Outlay 2007-08 | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **NEW LINE** | | | | |
| 1. | Kottur-Harihar (65 Kms) | 206.82 | 53.46 | 30.70 | Kottur-Harpanahalli (30 Kms) is targeted for completion during 2007-08. Land acquisition, earthwork and bridge works have also been taken up on balance portion. |
| 2. | Hubli-Ankola (167 Kms) | 997.58 | 34.54 | 5 | Earthwork and bridge works were taken up on Hubli-Kirvatti section. However, this work has been stopped as per advice of Central Empowered Committee, constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. |
| 3. | Gulbarga-Bidar ('06.6 Kms) | 369.70 | 52.17 | 20 | Land acquisition, earthwork, bridge works and ballast supply have been taken up. |
| 4. | Munirabad-Mahboobnagar (246 Kms) | 497.47 | 35.61 | 5 | Land acquisition, earthwork and bridge works have been taken up. |
| 5. | Bangalore-Hassan (166 Kms) | 412.91 | 222.77 | 21 | Work on Hassan-Shravanabelagola (43 Kms) and Bangalore (Chickbannaver)-Neelamangala (14 Kms) has been completed. Land acquisition, earthwork and bridge works have been taken up on balance portion. |
| | **GAUGE CONVERSION** | | | | |
| 1. | Shimoga-Talguppa (97 Kms) of Birur- | 539.41 | 409.85 | 70 | Main line work on Bangalore-Hubli (533 Kms) completed and commissioned. Shimoga-Anandapuram (56 Kms) is targeted for completion during 2007-08. Earthwork, bridge |

| Sl.No. | Project | Anticipated cost | Expenditure incurred upto March, 2007 | Outlay 2007-08 | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Hubli and Shimoga Town-Talguppa (630 Kms) | | | | works and ballast supply has been taken up in the entire 97 Kms length. |
| 2. | Solapur-Gadag (300 Kms) | 357.69 | 347.65 | 65 | Solapur-Hotgi-Bijapur-Bagalkot (207 Kms) completed and commissioned and balance section i.e. Bagalkot-Gadag (93 Kms) is targeted for completion during 2007-08. |
| | **DOUBLING** | | | | |
| 1. | Ramanagaram-Mysore (9.15 Kms) including electrification Kengeri-Mysore | 343.18 | 0 | 5.16 | Preliminary activities have been taken up. |

(c) The State Government has requested for converting summer special train from Bangalore to Mysore to a permanent train. This is not feasible at present.